What else do masks but masquers show,
And masquers can both dance and play
Our masking dames can sport, you know.
Sometime by night, sometime by day
c Can you hit it9 is oft their dance,
Deuce-ace falls still to be their chance

*ijth January* BARNFIELD'S c CYNTHIA ' AND c CASSANDRA '

Mr Richard Barnfield hath written two poems, the one in praise of Cynthia, the other of the life and death of Cassandra

Of Cynthia, he saith that the gods and goddesses all promised her wealth, wisdom and beauty, but that between the goddess and her Gracious Majesty there is this difference

She shines by night, but thou by day dost shine ,
She monthly changes , thou dost ne'er decline
And as the sun to her doth lend his light,
So he by thee is only made so bright
Yet neither sun, nor moon, thou canst be named,
Because thy lights have both their beauties shamed
Then since an heavenly name doth thee befall,
Thou Virgo art, if any sign at all

Of Cassandra, telleth the story of her lamentable life , how the god Apollo loved her so that, encouraging his love, she caused him solemnly to promise her the gift of prophecy, which promise being made she chastely counterchecked his approaches Hereat the god, being greatly enraged, cursed her that she should indeed foretell truly of things to come, but for her false-hood no man should believe her , and moreover, for a penance on that sex, a constant woman should be hard to find ; which prophecy (saith the author) hath proved true for that their * sex are subject to inconstancy as other creatures are to destiny '

*^yrd January* COMPLAINTS AGAINST PATENTS

The leather sellers in the City send a petition to her Majesty concerning the enormities of Mr Darc/s patent

for stamping of leather which the Lord Mayor upholdeth, for, saith he, the exactions and other inconveniences of Mr Carey's patent cause great grief and murmur of the people throughout the land, and Mr. Darcy's violent manner of proceeding is very